

## COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

## NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Items of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Monday when intended for Wednesday's paper and not later than Thursday for Saturday's issue. This, of course, applies only to regular correspondence. In case of items of unusual news value, send in immediately by mail, telephone or telegraph. Such news stories are acceptable up to the hour of going to press. Wednesday's paper is printed Tuesday afternoon and Saturday's paper Friday afternoon.

## TINDAL.

Tindal, May 15.—Rain is very badly needed in this section; the spring cuts and gardens are suffering very much.

Mrs. S. D. Richardson is spending some time in Charleston.

Miss Isola Rivers left on Wednesday afternoon for High Springs, Fla., where she expects to make her future home.

Mrs. Hugh Hodge is visiting relatives at Woodruff.

Mr. J. P. Richardson spent a few days in Columbia this week.

## SARDINIA.

Sardinia, May 14.—Two deep artesian wells about 300 feet each are being bored by Mr. T. H. McFaddin for Dr. Doty, and Mr. E. W. Rose's places at Sardinia. An excellent flow of water will be secured.

The water supply of this thriving town is excellent, a large number of artesian wells have been bored, giving a large flow of absolutely pure water, thus preventing the germs of disease.

New Zion, May 15.—There is a petition addressed to Supt. Buckner, Atlantic division, Southern Express Company, Wilmington, N. C., which is receiving numerous signatures for the company to direct the opening of an express office at New Zion, which is urgently requested. The amount of business and shipments to and from this thriving town has increased materially in the last few years and will continue to increase.

## SMITHVILLE.

Smithville, May 17.—The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Kirkley, died May 13th. The little body was interred at St. John's today. They have the sympathy of their many friends in their sad bereavement.

Dr. T. D. Foxworth and Mrs. Foxworth went to Sumter last Monday to have an operation performed on the nose and throat of their little son, Edward. He stood the operation well and is getting along very nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. T. C. Robertson.

Mr. D. J. Hatfield spent Friday and Saturday in Sumter.

Mr. Henry Hatfield of Borden, is visiting his father, Mr. S. B. Hatfield, Sr., who is sinking rapidly today. No hopes are entertained of his recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hair, of Greeleyville, are coming today to visit Mrs. S. B. Hatfield, who is quite feeble.

## DARK CORNER.

Dark Corner, May 17.—Nothing strange in these diggings. People are too cowardly to fight, the young folks are afraid to get married, and nearly everybody stays at home so no one gets lost. Truthfully speaking I can say no one dead, married, lost or drowned.

Crops are looking very well, but rather small, though they are generally well worked. The most of the old cotton has been chopped, though there is some cotton that is not up yet, as the weather has been so dry. We had a mighty good shower here on Monday evening the 10th, but the wind soon blew the land dry again. It threatened rain yesterday evening, but we did not get but a little drizzle. Rain is very much needed at this time.

The health of the community is very good except Mr. George Ardis still keeps very feeble.

Miss Mary Lee Ardis and brother, John, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Ardis last Sunday.

Mr. Don Geddings and Miss Lena Bartlette, of Pinewood, visited at W. J. Ardis' yesterday.

Dud Weeks visited at Joe M. Ardis' yesterday evening.

I have just heard that R. M. Brailsford, Nat Geddings and others cut the dam of the Broughton Mill pond near Platon one day last week. They report that the fish turned up rather scarce.

Mr. Editor some of your readers say that I do not write often enough. If they had to do what I have been doing I very much doubt that they would write once a month. I am the fellow with the hoe and real glad am I that I can wield the hoe, for next Friday the 21st, I will be sixty-five years old. I received a nice cake for

a birth day present last year from a colored friend, but he is dead now, so I won't get any cake from him any more. And as for the hoe I told my friends on the stump last summer if they did not want me for magistrate to say so, and I would pick up my hoe again. And many, many thanks to the voters who said they did not want me as it has permitted me to stay at home in peace with all mankind. I hope, as I never did want the magistrate's office. But when the sun does not shine too hot I do love to fight general green with a good hoe, which I have been doing now for about 57 years. So here's to the hoe and all who love to use it.

## Commencement at New Zion.

New Zion, S. C., May 17.—A few days back your correspondent received a very courteous invitation from a trustee of the New Zion High school to attend the commencement exercises, which he accepted and attended.

He was very much gratified at the progress shown by the pupils, and the principal and the trustees could congratulate themselves upon the success attained for the scholastic term.

The following graduates received diplomas:

Misses Pearl Wheeler, Estelle Gibbons, Juanita Boykin, Corrine Baird. The music was rendered by Miss Junita Boykin, and Mr. David Baird.

There was an audience of over 500 present and all were delighted with the exercises.

By request of Principal Marsche, a visitor from Manning delivered an address on "Woman" which was favorably received.

## OUR SUMMERTON LETTER.

Farmers Selling Future Cotton—A Narrow Escape From Burning—Weddings Announced—A New R. F. D. Route—Personals, Etc.

Summerton, May 17.—Not often does it happen that the 15th of May arrives without there having been heard many complaints of the "hot weather," and very rarely indeed does that infallible and omniscient instrument, the weather bureau, find it necessary to send out frost warnings to our section of the country as late as the 11th of May. Be that as it may, as yet no serious consequences of the late spring are apparent; nor do our farmers seem in any way exercised about the crop outlook. Still, some of our more cautious planters are upholding the good principle underlying the old maxim of "making hay while the sun shines," by placing some of their next year's cotton crop at the present high prices. Several hundred bales have been sold for fall delivery; and it is to be expected that a great many more will appreciate the fact that ten-cent cotton is not a thing to be scoffed at.

It would seem that the possible damage wrought in the gardens and on the farms by the unseasonable cool weather will be more than equalized by the probable delay of malaria germs. Without being able to quote any statistics in the matter, we are of the opinion that there has been considerably less malaria in this section during these first spring months. The drainage effected by the town a few years ago has no doubt been the means of decreasing the fever cases each spring; and it was only a few days since that some of the members of the Board of Health were advocating further improvements of this nature, as well as a thorough cleaning out and scraping of the main ditch through Scotch Branch.

On last Thursday morning Mrs. Walter Mathis narrowly escaped what might have been a very serious accident. In standing with her back quite near an open fire, her skirts caught on fire and the whole back portion of her dress was burning before Mrs. Quince Mathis, who was the first to discover the fact, could come to her assistance. Mrs. Mathis very thoughtfully undertook to tear the burning dress off, and in so doing prevented any serious injury to either one; but both were somewhat burned. Mrs. Quince Mathis being disabled for two or three days with blistered hands.

On the first of next month a third rural route from this place will go into effect. Our postmaster, Mr. Ellison Capers, has been working to this end for some time past, and we congratulate him upon the materialization of his plan. This route while it will not comprise very much new territory will add greatly in adjusting the two present routes. Rural Route No. 3, from this office will extend east about half way from here to Manning. Applicants for mail carrier on this new route were examined in Manning about ten days ago but as yet the results are not known. The following young men took this examination: Mr. Lawrence Chevaling, Robert S. Dingle, Henry E. Richbourg and Jack B. Nelson.

Two weddings of interest to Summerton and the surrounding neighborhood will take place on the 2nd and 20th of next month. The first, that of Mr. Olin B. Coskrey to Miss Moselle Furse, of Appleton, S. C., comes off on June 2nd; the other, that of Miss Annie Wilson, a former

teacher of this community, comes off on the 30th at Miss Wilson's home in Mayesville, S. C.

The Summerton graded and high school closes its session on May 27th and 28th. Preparations for the closing exercises are now going on. We hear with much regret that we are to lose several of our present teachers another year. A very successful session has been effected with Mr. E. A. Armistead, of Rockingham, N. C., as superintendent, and the following young ladies as assistants: Miss Uldine Valden, of Richmond, Va., Miss Lydia Scarborough of this place, Miss Chauncey Blackburn, of Columbia, Miss Lucille Sheridan, of Greenwood, S. C., and Mrs. Grady Walker, of this place.

The Davis Cross Roads Academy will have its closing exercises on Tuesday evening, May 18th. This school has been conducted this year under the efficient management of Miss Mary Culp, of Rock Hill, S. C.

Mrs. Hope, of Norfolk, Va., is visiting her sister, Mrs. H. A. Richbourg of this place.

Mr. Wallace Plowden, of Manning, spent last Thursday with friends in town.

Miss Lizzie Rembert is now on a visit to Mrs. E. C. Tindal.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Kershaw, Jr., leave on Tuesday for Walhalla, S. C., where they will spend the summer months.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Anderson, of West Point, Miss., are expected to arrive in a few days to spend the summer with Mrs. Anderson's mother, Mrs. E. C. Tindal.

Dr. J. T. Stukes and family, of Lloyd, Fla., are visiting at the home of Dr. L. C. Stukes.

Miss Mildred James left last Friday for Charlotte, N. C., where she will spend some time with relatives there.

## NEW PASTOR ARRIVES.

Rev. Mark S. Peckham, of Hiram, Ohio, Has Taken Charge of Christian Church.

Rev. Mark S. Peckham, of Hiram, Ohio, who has been secured as pastor of the Christian church of this city arrived here Friday accompanied by his wife and little daughter. Rev. Peckham is a son of G. A. Peckham, who is professor in the department of old testament languages and literature at Hiram College, of which the Rev. Peckham is a graduate. He comes to this city with the highest recommendations of the brotherhood and also the national board.

Since the removal of the old tabernacle, the congregation has been meeting at Graham's Studio, but as this has become too small they had to look elsewhere for a place of meeting. Mr. R. N. Abbey, having heard of their need of a place until the completion of their church, which is in course of erection, kindly offered the Lyric. This has been accepted and the congregation will hereafter conduct services at the Lyric, every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and in the evening at 8.

## ROBBERS WRECK TRAIN.

Drive Locomotive Against Passenger Cars After Hold-up.

Spokane, Wash., May 16.—Following the hold-up of a Great Northern passenger train by six bandits between Colbert and Mead last night, 12 persons were injured when the locomotive and the mail car, cut off from the rest of the train, were run back wild by the bandits, after they had rifled the mails of an unknown amount, and collided with the rest of the train.

The conductor saw the wild cars coming back at 25 miles an hour, and he and another trainman placed a tie on the track but the cars, though partly stopped, plunged into the coaches, throwing passengers from their seats and cutting them with broken glass. A trainman sprang aboard the locomotive as the collision occurred and shut off the steam, stopping the havoc.

When the train reached Colbert late last night, while the crew was busy with some switching, two men sprang into the cab and thrusting revolvers against the breasts of the engineer and fireman, ordered them to be commanded. The engineer and fireman complied and the mail cars were cut off from the rest of the train by four other robbers. The locomotive and mail car then ran up the track a few miles. Then the engineer and his fireman were forced to leave the cab. Two of the robbers went to the door of the mail car and ordered it opened. Their command was obeyed by Benjamin F. Stumpf, mail clerk, who was hurried away from the cars with the fireman by a dozen revolver shots.

Manning the locomotive themselves, the outlaws took the mail car down the track and looted the registered mail. Then they started the locomotive back toward the rest of the train and escaped.

Adjutant General Boyd, who was stricken at Aiken on Friday, is improving and his physician hopes he will be able to return to Columbia within a few days.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR SUMTER.

The Civic League Has Undertaken a Work of Great Importance.

At a recent meeting of the Civic League, a motion was carried to appoint a committee to look into the matter of a public library. This committee has reported favorably, and, at an early date, a library will be opened to the town. Necessarily, it has to begin in a modest way, as it is a local matter entirely, and the committee does not expect to solicit aid from any source beyond our town. In the next few months the library will be located at the old Haynsworth law office on Main street, a place convenient to all, and Miss Ingram will serve as librarian. The dues will be 50c quarterly, or \$2 for the whole year, if you prefer to pay that way.

We wish to impress on the public, however, that these arrangements are only temporary. The committee hopes to soon have a first class library at the disposal of the reading public, with books of reference, standard works, popular fiction, leading magazines, popular newspapers, etc., and attractive and comfortable reading rooms for grown people and children.

The committee proposes to give special attention to the children's department, and the fines will be so small as to be within the reach of all young folks, 50 cents annually.

The need of a public library in a town of Sumter's size and importance is so great and so apparent, that we do not think it necessary to discuss it here, feeling sure that our citizens are already persuaded of the worthiness of such an enterprise. So far we have received only words of encouragement and commendation. But the committee is most anxious that this matter be considered in the light of an individual as well as public benefit and that all will assist us in every way they possibly can, and feel that it is their work as well as ours.

The first move towards getting this work on foot will be a Book Reception held at the Civic League office on Main street, (the old Haynsworth law office) next Thursday evening, May 20th, from 6 to 8. The office and adjoining grounds will be made attractive, refreshments will be served, and sweet music will beguile your ear. The Sumter people who expect to join the Library Association are cordially invited to attend, bring a book (or more than one if you wish), and put down names and dues. If you cannot attend send your dues, and books if you desire to contribute. Any book which you have and think would be a benefit to the library will be most acceptable. Please do not buy a book for this purpose, as we prefer that you turn over the cost to our Book Committee who are to invest all funds beyond actual running expenses, in such books and magazines as are needed. Do not forget the date and hour. Next Thursday evening, May 20th, 6 to 8 o'clock, at the Civic League office.

## The Delineator for June.

Summer from many points of view is reflected in the beautiful illustrated pages of The Delineator for June. Alice Lounsbury writes about "The Return of Rose-Time" and Mable Osgood Wright describes "Birds We Ought to Know." For those who are going to Europe and for those who will stay at home M. Landon Reed tells, most amusingly, of "The Hard Work of a Foreign Tour." Mabel Porter Daggett contributes an article of rare interest, a study of "One Woman's Civic Service," the one woman being the Rev. Caroline Bartlett Crane, who has achieved national distinction since she began to work for municipal reforms in Kalamazoo.

"The Seven Stages to the Stage" is a feature of special interest because the writer, Louise Closser Hale, expresses the opinion concerning responsibility of mothers who teach their children to lip verses and thus to occupy the first of the seven stages to the stage. Another article that will cause readers to think is entitled "The Useless Tragedy of the Farmer's Wife." In the William Atherton Du Puy makes startling accusations concerning the general indifference to the sacrifice through which the woman on the farm helps to attain prosperity that she, herself, seldom enjoys.

The first installment of Richard Le Gallienne's account of his tramp across New York State appears in this June number. "October Vagabonds" is an exquisite piece of literature that will appeal to every lover of nature.

There are three remarkable short stories: "The Heart of Old Ke-mah" by Honore Willsie, "Mr. Caw's Love Affair" by J. J. Bell, and "Children of Spring" by Arthur Springer.

The fashion pages are as usual, sumptuously illustrated. Mrs. Simcox gives hints in the latest modes, and the Paris letter contains much of interest to women.

It takes a lot of Christianity to enable a man to feel glad when he is called upon for \$10 to help repair the church.

## THE STATE HOSPITAL INQUIRY.

Meeting of Legislative Committee Tomorrow to Examine Further Into Conditions.

Columbia, May 17.—The legislative committee appointed to investigate conditions at the State Hospital for the Insane will meet tomorrow morning for the examination of other witnesses and to hear reports, should there be any, from the various subcommittees. The committee has so far examined only five witnesses, two of them being former inmates and the others being connected with the institution in an official capacity.

It has been brought out that conditions on the male white wards are very bad and that there is need for better accommodations and more money. On the white female wards the conditions are very much better and, according to the testimony of Dr. Saunders, who has charge of that department, every patient is contented and well cared for.

Members of the committee are now at work on plans for remedying conditions in the white male department although in the meantime conditions in the male and female negro wards will also be examined. Dr. Thompson, in charge of the white males, testified that there was need for more room, more and better nurses and a change in the discipline. These matters will be looked into by the committee at the session this week. It is not known yet how many witnesses will be summoned and the session may last only a few days or continue for some time.

## DR. D. C. KELLEY DEAD.

Well-Known Methodist Minister Passes Away at Nashville.

Nashville, Tenn., May 15.—The Rev. Dr. David Campbell Kelley, colonel in the Confederate service, and commander of a brigade in Forest's cavalry, died here this afternoon of heart failure. Dr. Kelley was seventy-seven years old, and one of the most widely known ministers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His services in the pulpit covered nearly sixty years. A number of years ago he was a candidate for governor of Tennessee on the prohibition ticket, but was defeated. He leaves a widow and one daughter.

## SOUTH CAROLINA GREAT STATE.

Her Wonderful Resources Enumerated by One of Her Eloquent Sons.

Atlanta Georgian.

Hyperbole is a figure of speech in which the orator has been want to indulge from time immemorial. But we doubt if either the legislative halls or the political hustings have ever evolved the equal of this outburst of eloquence from an enraptured public speaker on the other side of the Savannah river. It discounts any fourth of July oration we ever heard. Exclaims the wonderful bugler:

"Has it ever occurred to you, Mr. Chairman, that the cotton cloth made in South Carolina annually would make a sheet big enough to cover the entire face of America and Europe and lop over on the toes of Asia? Or, if all the cattle raised in each year were one cow, she could browse on the tropical vegetation along the equator, while her tail switched icicles off the North Pole and that her milk could float a ship load of her butter and cheese from Charleston to New York? Or, if all the mules that are marketed each year were one mule, it would consume the entire annual corn crop of North Carolina at one meal, and kick the spots off the sun without swelling its side or shaking its tail? Or, if the hogs we raise annually were one hog, that animal would dig the Panama canal in three roots, without grunting, and its squeak would be loud enough to jar the coconuts off the trees in Central America?"

## DOG WENT TO DOCTOR.

And Aiken Pup is Grateful for Physician's Kindness.

(From the Aiken Journal and Review)

A story of a dog's appreciation for service rendered is told on the streets. The other day a little terrier dog hobbled into the office of Drs. J. F. Wyman & Son, and finding no one at home, he calmly laid himself upon the floor, made himself as comfortable as possible, and awaited the arrival of one of the good doctors. Ere long, Dr. Hastings Wyman, Jr., came in, and upon discovering that the dog would not leave the office he examined him and found that he was suffering from a broken leg. The leg was bandaged and now the little pup insists on remaining with the doctor and paying his little account, (for you know doctor's don't work for nothing). The pup is still following the doctor about, and showing in every manner possible for a dumb animal, his appreciation of the surgical operation.

Many a man gets the upper hand by dealing it to himself from the bottom of the deck.

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR REUNION.

Everything Will be in Readiness for Gathering of Confederate Veterans in Memphis June 8.

Memphis, Tenn., May 16.—Announcement is made by the general executive committee that all will be in readiness for the annual Confederate reunion, which will meet in Memphis on June 8, 9, and 10, and all indications point to one of the most successful gatherings in the history of the organization.

All Confederate veterans who desire free accommodations will be cared for in a liberal manner. The general committee announces that food, lodging and medical attendance will be provided for every old soldier who shall make his wants known.

Chairman W. R. Barksdale of the hotel committee said tonight that no advance in hotel rates will be made.

Automobile races will be held daily at the fair grounds and other amusements have been provided.

The social feature of the gathering will be the sponsor's ball, to be given in the large auditorium building at the East End.

## GEN. J. C. BOYD SERIOUSLY ILL.

Adjutant General Stricken in Hotel Aiken—Was Seized With Apoplexy.

Aiken, May 14.—This afternoon at the Hotel Aiken Adjutant General J. C. Boyd, of Columbia, was stricken with apoplexy and is now in a very serious condition. Gen. Boyd was in Aiken for the purpose of selecting a site for the encampment of the Third regiment and making arrangements for the encampment. With several citizens he spent all the morning driving, and the hot weather was noticed to have fatigued the general somewhat. After he had dinner at Hotel Aiken he was sitting in the lobby with Capt. Rains of Charleston. The general was noticed to be in some way affected, and when he was spoken to by Capt. Rains he made no reply. In a moment, however, he appeared to have revived, and answered. His peculiar actions caused alarm among those who saw him, but Capt. Rains explained that he often was thus affected, and he thought he would soon recover. However, in another moment he had fallen out of his chair to the floor.

Dr. T. G. Croft was summoned at once and in a few minutes the stricken soldier was carried to his room, where, for nearly two hours, he was in a delirious condition. He has now quieted, and the attending physician states that he has hopes of recovery. Tonight he has partially regained consciousness.

The general's attack was followed by a hemorrhage. A quantity of blood was drawn from his arm.

He is under the influence of narcotics, but his condition is considered better than a few hours ago. Relatives in Columbia have been notified. Capt. Rains returned to Charleston this afternoon.

## CHARLESTON TO BE "DRY."

After June 30 Saloons Will Be Banned From Kanawha County.

Charleston, W. Va., May 15.—A serious situation confronts this, the capital city of West Virginia. There is a heavy bonded indebtedness hanging over the heads of the voters, and saloon licenses, from which the city has heretofore derived most of its revenue, have been cut off.

On Tuesday night, when the new council met, a motion to abolish saloons carried by a big majority. The vote was taken as a joke, and the "wets" succeeded in having the meeting recessed until Thursday night to secure a reconsideration.

When the recessed meeting was held it was discovered that the "drys" had made gains, and by a vote of 30 to 10 it was ordered that "at the expiration of the present license year no more saloons shall exist in Charleston." The revenue question was then raised. The State will not allow a city tax of more than 35 cents on the \$100 valuation, and that is not sufficient to bring in revenue enough to run the city government. Besides, contracts for municipal improvements have been awarded and some of the work has actually been started. The situation is causing much worry among the citizens.

Recently the County Court issued an order that no saloon licenses would be issued outside the city of Charleston, hence the entire county of Kanawha will be dry for the first time in its history. The license year ends June 30.

The problem of taking care of Judge Adams and Mr. Thomas Settle has now been complicated to a considerable extent.—Winston-Salem Journal.

Most women have faith in their husbands as long as they can buy things on credit at a dry goods store.

It takes a woman or a phonograph cylinder to talk while running around.